IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (currently amended) An apparatus authentication information ~~inclusion~~ system~~, which comprises~~ having a ~~providing~~ management server and a terminal and ~~is~~ used for including apparatus authentication information in said terminal as information used by an apparatus authentication server to authenticate said terminal, wherein said system further comprises:

said management ~~providing~~ server provides source information used as a source for generating apparatus authentication information to said terminal and provides said apparatus authentication information or said source information to said apparatus authentication server for authenticating said terminal; and

said terminal stores source information ~~as information necessary for transmitting~~ and generates said apparatus authentication information ~~by~~ using said ~~received~~ source information and, at a terminal authentication time, transmits said apparatus authentication information generated from said source information ~~by using said stored information to said apparatus authentication server~~.

2.   (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information ~~inclusion~~ system according to claim 1 wherein:

said ~~providing~~ management server provides said terminal with a conversion value obtained as a result of a conversion process carried out by using a predetermined directional-function on said apparatus authentication information generated from said source information;

said terminal generates a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using said predetermined directional-function on said apparatus authentication information generated from said ~~received~~ source information; and

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said terminal compares said generated conversion value with said conversion value received from said ~~providing~~ management server to determine ~~produce a result of determination as to~~ whether said generated conversion value is equal to said received conversion value.

3.   (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information ~~inclusion~~ system according to claim 1 wherein:

said terminal provides said ~~providing~~ management server with a conversion value obtained as a result of a conversion process carried out by using a predetermined directional-function on said apparatus authentication information generated from said source information;

said ~~providing~~ management server generates a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using said predetermined directional-function on said apparatus authentication information generated from said ~~received~~ source information; and

said ~~providing~~ management server compares said generated conversion value with said conversion value received from said terminal to determine ~~produce a result of determination as to~~ whether ~~or not~~ said generated conversion value is equal to said received conversion value.

4.   (currently amended) A terminal comprising:

source-information acquisition means for acquiring source information including a terminal identifier provided by a ~~providing~~ management server ~~as a source~~ and used for generating apparatus authentication information;

generation means for generating apparatus authentication information from said acquired source information; and

apparatus authentication information transmission means for transmitting said generated apparatus

authentication information to an apparatus authentication server ~~at an apparatus authentication time~~.

5.   (original) The terminal according to claim 4 wherein:

said source information is encrypted apparatus authentication information obtained as a result of a process to encrypt said apparatus authentication information; and

said generation means generates said apparatus authentication information by decrypting said encrypted apparatus authentication information.

6.   (original) The terminal according to claim 4, further comprising storage means for encrypting apparatus authentication information generated by said generation means and storing a result of encrypting said apparatus authentication information, wherein said apparatus authentication information transmission means decrypts apparatus authentication information stored in said storage means and transmits a result of decrypting said apparatus authentication information.

7.   (currently amended) The terminal according to claim 6, further comprising key generation means which is used for generating an encryption key ~~for processes~~ to encrypt <u>said</u> apparatus authentication information to be stored into said storage means and decrypt apparatus authentication information stored in said storage means by using information peculiar to said terminal when it is desired to utilize said encryption key.

8.   (currently amended) The terminal according to claim 7, further comprising key deletion means for deleting said generated encryption key within a predetermined period ~~right~~ after use of said encryption key.

9.   (currently amended) The terminal according to claim 4, further comprising:

conversion-value acquisition means for acquiring a conversion value obtained as a result of a conversion process carried out by using a predetermined one-directional function on said apparatus authentication information from said providing server;

conversion-value computation means for computing a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using said predetermined one-directional function on said generated apparatus authentication information; and

determination means for determining ~~producing a result of determination as to~~ whether ~~or not~~ said acquired conversion value is equal to said computed conversion value.

10. (currently amended) The terminal according to claim 9, further comprising:

conversion-value computation means for computing a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using another one-directional function on said generated apparatus authentication information; and

conversion-value-providing means for providing said computed conversion value to said ~~providing~~ management server.

11. (currently amended) The terminal according to claim 4, further comprising:

conversion-value computation means for computing a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using a predetermined one-directional function on said generated apparatus authentication information; and

conversion-value-providing means for providing said computed conversion value to said ~~providing~~ management server.

12. (original) The terminal according to claim 4, further comprising storage means for storing said acquired source information, wherein said apparatus authentication information transmission means generates apparatus

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authentication information from said stored source information
and transmits said apparatus authentication information to
said apparatus authentication server.

13. (currently amended) An apparatus authentication
information processing method adopted in a terminal
implemented as a computer comprising source-information
acquisition means, generation means and apparatus
authentication information transmission means, said apparatus
authentication information processing method
~~including~~comprising:

~~a source-information acquisition step of~~
~~driving said source-information acquisition means to acquire~~
acquiring source information from ~~provided by~~ a providing
server as a source used for generating apparatus
authentication information;

~~an generation step of driving said generation~~
~~means to generate~~ generating apparatus authentication
information from said acquired source information; and

~~an apparatus authentication information~~
~~transmission step of driving said apparatus authentication~~
~~information transmission means to transmit~~ transmitting, by
the proving server, said generated apparatus authentication
information to an apparatus authentication server at an
apparatus authentication time.

14. (currently amended) The apparatus
authentication information processing method according to
claim 13 whereby:

said source information is encrypted apparatus
authentication information obtained as a result of a process
to encrypt said apparatus authentication information; and

~~at said generation step, said apparatus~~
~~authentication information is generated by~~ generating further
comprises decrypting said encrypted apparatus authentication
information.

15. (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 13, further ~~including a storage step of~~ comprising encrypting apparatus authentication information generated by said generation means and storing ~~a result of encrypting~~ said encrypted apparatus authentication information into a memory ~~storage means~~ also employed in said computer whereby transmitting further comprises decrypting and transmitting said encrypted~~, at said apparatus authentication information transmission step,~~ apparatus authentication information stored in said memory~~storage means is decrypted and transmitted~~.

16. (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 15 wherein said computer further comprises key generation means, said apparatus authentication information processing method further ~~including a key generation step of driving said key generation means to generate~~ generating an encryption key ~~prior to use of said encryption key in processes to encrypt apparatus authentication information to be stored into said storage means and decrypt apparatus authentication information stored in said storage means by~~ using information peculiar to said terminal.

17. (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 16 ~~wherein said computer further has key deletion means, said apparatus authentication information processing method~~ further comprising ~~including a key deletion step of driving said key deletion means to delete~~ deleting said generated encryption key within a predetermined period right after use of said encryption key.

18. (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 13 wherein said computer further comprises conversion-value acquisition means, conversion-value computation means

and determination means, said apparatus authentication information processing method further ~~including~~comprising:

~~a conversion-value acquisition step of driving said conversion value acquisition means to acquire~~ acquiring a conversion value ~~obtained as a result of a conversion process carried out by~~ using a predetermined one-directional function on said apparatus authentication information from said providing server;

~~a conversion-value computation step of driving said conversion-value computation means to compute~~ computing, using said conversion value computation means, a ~~conversion value by execution of a conversion process using~~ said predetermined one-directional function to ~~on~~ said generated apparatus authentication information; and

~~a determination step of driving said determination means to produce a result of determination as to~~ determining, using said determination means whether or not said acquired conversion value is equal to said computed conversion value.

19. (currently amended) The apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 18 wherein said computer further comprises conversion-value computation means and conversion-value-providing means, said apparatus authentication information processing method further including:

~~a conversion-value computation step of driving~~ computing, using said conversion-value computation means, ~~to compute~~ a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using another one-directional function on said generated apparatus authentication information; and

~~a conversion-value-providing step of driving~~ providing, using said conversion-value-providing means, ~~to provide~~ said computed conversion value to said ~~providing~~ management server.

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20.   (currently amended) The   apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 13 wherein said computer further comprises conversion-value computation means and conversion-value-providing means, said apparatus authentication information processing method further including:

a conversion-value computation step of driving computing, using said conversion-value computation means, to compute a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using a predetermined one-directional function on said generated apparatus authentication information; and

a conversion-value providing step of driving providing, using said conversion-value-providing means, to provide said computed conversion value to said providing management server.

21.   (currently amended) The   apparatus authentication information processing method according to claim 13 wherein said computer further comprises a memory storage means for storing said acquired source information and, at said apparatus wherein transmitting further comprises generating authentication information transmission step, apparatus authentication information is generated from using said stored source information and transmittinged said generated apparatus authentication information to said apparatus authentication server.

22.-30.   (cancelled)

31.   (currently amended) A storage medium, which can be read by a computer and is used for storing an apparatus authentication information processing program to be executed by said computer to perform a method comprisingimplement:

a source information acquisition function of acquiring source information provided by a providing server as a source and used for generating apparatus authentication information;

a generation function of generating apparatus authentication information ~~from~~ using said acquired source information; and

~~an apparatus authentication information transmission function of~~ transmitting by said providing server said generated apparatus authentication information to an apparatus authentication server at an apparatus authentication time.

32. (currently amended) A providing server comprising:

source-information-providing means for providing a terminal with source information including unique terminal identifier used as a source for generating apparatus authentication information;

apparatus authentication information providing means for providing said apparatus authentication information or said source information to an apparatus authentication server for authenticating said terminal;

conversion-value acquisition means for acquiring a conversion value ~~obtained as a result of a conversion process carried out by~~ by using a predetermined one-directional function on apparatus authentication information generated ~~on the basis of~~ based on said source information from said terminal;

conversion-value computation means for computing a conversion value ~~by execution of a conversion process~~ using said one-directional function based on said apparatus authentication information; and

determination means for ~~producing a result of determination as to~~ determining whether ~~or not~~ said acquired conversion value is equal to said computed conversion value.

33. (currently amended) The providing server according to claim 32, further comprising determination-result transmission means for transmitting a ~~determination~~ result

produced by said determination means to a main organization ~~for including said source information~~.

34.-37.   (cancelled)

38.   (currently amended) A storage medium, which can be read by a computer and is used for storing an apparatus authentication information processing program to be executed by said computer to <u>perform a method comprising</u>~~implement~~:

~~a   source information providing   function   of~~ providing a terminal with source information <u>including identification information peculiar to the terminal</u> used as a source for generating apparatus authentication information;

~~an   apparatus   authentication   information   providing~~ function of providing said apparatus authentication information or said source information to an apparatus authentication server for authenticating said terminal;

~~a   conversion value   acquisition   function   of~~ acquiring a conversion value obtained as a result of a conversion process carried out by using a predetermined one-directional function on apparatus authentication information generated on the basis of said source information from said terminal;

~~a   conversion value   computation   function   of~~ computing a conversion value by execution of a conversion process using said one-directional function on said apparatus authentication information; and

~~a   determination function of~~ producing a result of determination as to whether or not said acquired conversion value is equal to said computed conversion value.